

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /085 W
----- 068835 /44

R 201428Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4170
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SREF IS UR AU EALR
SUBJ: TWO VIEWS ON SOVIET JEWISH DROPOUT PROBLEM

REF: TEL AVIV 7727

1. EMBOFF SPOKE ON DECEMBER 16 TO ZELIG CHINITZ, DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL (IN ISRAEL), REGARDING RECENT
DELIBERATIONS ON DROPOUT PROBLEM BY AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS
AND JEWISH AGENCY LONDON CONFERENCE. HE ALLUDED TO THE FAILURE
OF ISRAELI EMISSARIES AND MAX FISHER TO ARRANGE COMPROMISE
APPROACH TO RESOLVE PROBLEM, AND SAID NE EFFORT WILL BE MADE
BY FISHER TO ACHIEVE "CONSENSUS" AMONG AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS
BY MARCH ON LIMITING ASSISTANCE TO THOSE DROPPING OUT IN VIENNA
AFTER DEPARTING USSR WITH ISRAELI VISAS. THIS NEW POLICY WOULD
TAKE EFFECT THREE MONTHS AFTER AGREEMENT WORKED OUT. WORD OF
LIMITATION OF ASSISTANCE TO DROPOUTS EXPECTED TO FILTER BACK
TO USSR AND RESULT IN REDUCTION OF PHENOMENON. MEANWHILE, DEPT WILL
BE ASKED BY AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS TO WORK FOR INCREASED
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IMMIGRATION DIRECT FROM RUSSIA TO U.S.

2. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR,
EMBOFF ASKED WHAT VIENNA'S POSITION WOULD BE IF AMERICAN
JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS ENDED AID TO DROPOUTS IN VIENNA.
HE REPLIED THAT AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES AND VIENNA JEWISH

COMMUNITY WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY TAKE CARE OF THEM, ALBEIT
AT A LOWER STANDARD THAN PROVIDED BY HIAS. HE NOTED
VIENNA'S LONG-STANDING POLICY OF QUIETLY TAKING CARE OF
REFUGEES AND EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THIS POLICY WOULD CONTINUE
UNCHANGED. WHEN ASKED WHETHER SUCH A POLICY MIGHT CHANGE
SHOULD THE NUMBER OF DROPOUTS IN VIENNA INCREASE, HE REITERATED THAT
AUSTRIA HAD PROVIDED A HAVEN TO THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES IN THE PAST AND

WOULD DO SO AGAIN IN NECESSARY.

3. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT THAT AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR HAS
DESCRIBED HIS GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD
DROPOUTS IN OVERLY GENEROUS TERMS. EMBASSY VIENNA MAY WISH
TO COMMENT ON THIS.
TOON

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